Northampton Mercury

Thursday, November 29, 2012

First published 1720

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Free every week

Boxer John is charity dancing champion

A BOXING master battled his way to the final round to win this year's Strictly Northampton.

John Daly, head coach of Far Cotton Amateur Boxing Club, was crowned the winner of the charity dance contest at the Royal & Derngate on Saturday night.

He said: "It's been a brilliant night, I never expected to win. There's some very good dancers in the group."

John performed a cha cha, an American smooth waltz and a freestyle routine to the Rocky theme tune, as a play on his boxing talents, with partner, professional dancer, Hannah Fowler.

He said: "Everybody loves Rocky. I thought I messed up my freestyle a bit though so I was surprised when I got through."

John, who has never danced before, trained with the Step By Step dance school in Henry Street, Northampton, for only eight weeks before the contest.

He said: "It's been hard work but looked great tonight and I've made some lovely friends along the way."

The event raised almost £30,000 for the Chronicle & Echo and Macmillan Cancer Support's charity appeal, taking the total to £1.45 million.

The campaign is to raise £1.55 million by the end of the year to help fund a new blood cancer unit at Northampton General Hospital.

John's brother Kevin, aged 45, is suffering with cancer, and John said: "I wore his waistcoat on stage and I think it gave me some luck. He was here to watch me tonight and he thinks it's brilliant that I've won. I know how much the cause means to people and I'm glad to have helped raise the money."

Although a team of judges shared their opinion of the sixteen celebrity contestants' dances on the night, the winner was decided by an audience text-vote.

Assistant Chief Constable of Northamptonshire Police Force, Andy Frost, came second and owner of Fong Spa beauty, Yin Jeune, came third,

Those taking part included ITV Daybreak weather girl, Laura Tobin; Miss Northampton Nadina Knight; Northamptonshire Community Foundation fund development manager, Jessica Pilkington; manager of Outcast Hair Salon, Vicky Panting; owner of Fong Spa Beauty, Yin Jeune; leader of Northampton Borough Council, David Mackintosh; dog trainer, Graeme "The Dogfather" Hall; Assistant Chief Constable of Northamptonshire Police, Andy Frost; founder of Far Cotton Amateur Boxing Club, John Daly; Old Northamptonians Rugby Club player, Edward St John Smythe; Chron reporter Ian Gallagher; Kyle Cherry, who is in the England under-17s badminton team; headteacher at Lings Primary School, Leigh Wolmarans; Barclaycard employee Gary McMahon; owner of The Works Fancy Dress shop, Patricia Coleman; and Royal & Derngate operations manager, Richard Clinton.

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LENGTHY PROCESS The search for Anxiang Du ended in July but he still remains in Morocco

MP in bid to speed up extradition of murder suspect

A Northampton MP has written to the Foreign Office in a bid to speed up the ongoing extradition of quadruple murder suspect, Anxiang Du.

Michael Ellis, MP for Northampton North, has written to Alistair Burt, a Parliamentary under-secretary, to ask for a "speedy resolution" to the process. Du has been awaiting extradition from Morocco for more than four months, after he was arrested in the north African country in July.

In his letter, Mr Ellis said he was aware there had been "considerable delays" in the process, but said: "The people of Northampton would like to see a resolution to the case as soon as possible."

Speaking to the *Chronicle & Echo*, he said: "I have spoken to some people at the Home Office and following on from that, I have written to the Foreign Office. I am concerned about this case. It was a multiple murder in my home town and I want to see justice done as soon as possible. I take the view that justice delayed is justice denied."

He added: "My understanding is we have a good relationship with Morocco, but it is obviously complicated when there is no extradition process between the two countries.

"I hope this is kept fresh in the minds of those involved with the negotiating process because I want them to get on with it.

"I appreciate this takes time, but as far as I am concerned I am just trying to keep the Foreign Office on the ball. I want this to kept at the top of their agenda."

Du remains the only person wanted in connection with the brutal murders of Jifeng Ding, his wife Helen Chui, and the pair's two daughters, Xing, aged 18, and Alice, aged 12, in Simpson Manor, Northampton, in April 2011.

Diplomats seek 'special agreement'

THE extradition of Anxiang Du is reliant upon diplomats agreeing a "special agreement" with Morocco.
The deal must be agreed in the absence of an official extradition treaty with experts warning cases of extradition between the countries are "unprecedented".
Expert Julian Knowles QC said "the major task would be for the diplomats, in terms of the persuasion and cajoling" of Moroccan officials.

New houses need to be built

THE politician responsible for housing in Northampton says she hopes new houses will be built to help those at risk of becoming homeless.

Research by the National Housing Federation (NHF) shows the number of people officially classed as homeless in Northamptonshire jumped from 632 in 2010 to 1,116 this year.

Northampton Borough Council's cabinet member for housing, Councillor Mary Markham (Con, Obelisk) said the collapse in the housing market was one of the main reasons people had been unable to buy their own homes.

She said: "The national housing collapse has undoubtedly added to the problem, but I'm sure more new homes will be built in the future, including more affordable properties."

In Northampton there are currently about 450 people who are classed as needing emergency accommodation. A further 11,000 are on the waiting list for a council house.

Councillor Markham said one reason more people were waiting for council homes was a change in the way people view having their own house.

She said: "Family life has changed in the past few years.

"Young people used to live with their parents until they were married or moved away. That doesn't happen so much any more. So more and more young people are presenting themselves to us for housing."

The NHF has warned that if more homes are not built, the cost of renting through a private landlord in the East Midlands will rise by 67 per cent over the next 10 years.

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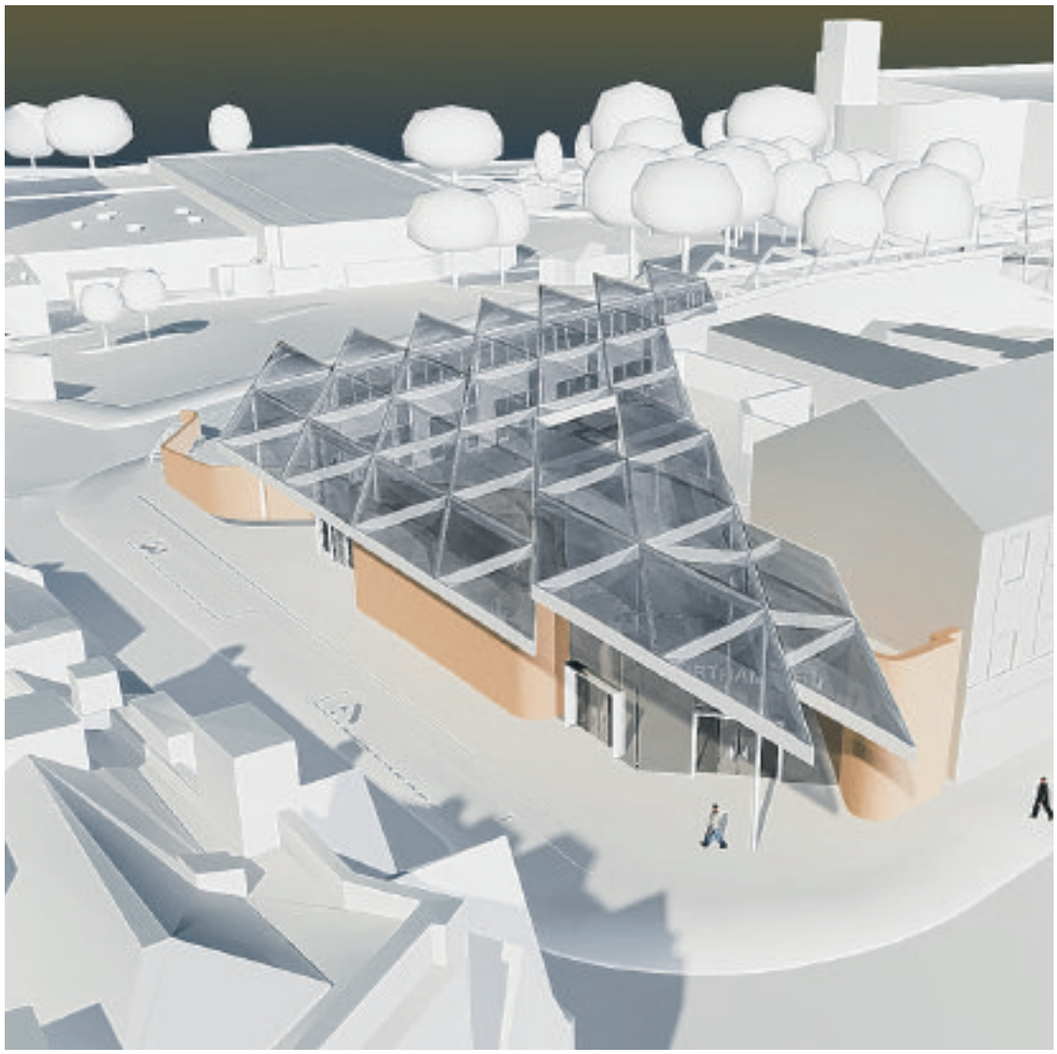

'New bus station will be beautiful'

The architect behind Northampton's new bus station believes it will not be hated in the future, "like the current Greyfriars building".

Work to start the demolition of the Fishmarket in Sheep Street will begin on Monday.

Once the old market building is gone, a new bus station for the town will be built in its place.

Architect Ian Sanders designed the new building, which will feature a landmark glass roof.

He said he fully believed the building would be beautiful and would not be a blot on the landscape like Greyfriars has since it was built in 1976.

He said: "I think you can build a beautiful bus station and this one will be quite different to Greyfriars.

"It's starkly modern, which is what we wanted, but I don't think it will be hated in the future like Greyfriars. I certainly hope not."

The new bus station is being built so Greyfriars can be demolished to free-up the land it sits on for redevelopment.

Despite initial public opposition to the change, Mr Sanders said he believed people would eventually love the new station.

He said: "We always get an immediate reaction when people see the plans. Some people like it immediately and with some other people it's a bit of a grower. But we want it to be memorable."

The leader of Northampton wayne.bontoft@northantsnews.co.uk Borough Council, Councillor David Mackintosh (Con, Rectory Farm) has also insisted Greyfriars will be demolished once the new station is built, not simply left to rot.

He said: "Greyfriars has to go, there's no option. It has to go to free-up that site.

"I won't allow it to become a white elephant once the new bus station has opened.

"It's important the regeneration of the town happens, so it's important Greyfriars comes down."

When demolition work starts on the Fishmarket, archaeologists will remain on the site to see if any remains of the town's medieval Jewish quarter exists beneath the ground.

Policies review after Savile allegations

AMBULANCE bosses have reviewed their policies on access to vulnerable people, following the Jimmy Savile sexual abuse allegations.

The deceased BBC personality's access to hospitals and patients while a volunteer is now being investigated by the Department of Health.

In the latest East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) board papers, chief executive, Phil Milligan, said: "After media coverage of the Savile allegations, the safeguarding team has taken the opportunity to review EMAS arrangements relating to vulnerable people, particularly in relation to safeguarding, access to patients (including that access afforded to volunteers or celebrities) and listening to and acting on patient concerns."

He said the trust was looking at contracts between EMAS and third party providers and volunteers to make sure safeguarding requirements were in place.

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Show's not over until the donkey diva sings

gazettegossip
with Anne O'Donoghue

Could your donkey be a real asset to an opera?

Well, now's your chance to turn your donkey into a diva.

Opera director and producer Ellen Kent needs a donkey with star quality for a touring production coming to Dunstable. She is bringing the opera Carmen to the Grove Theatre early next year.

At each stop on the tour, Ellen is using rescue donkeys from sanctuaries close to the various venues. But so far, her efforts to find a Jack or Jenny (that's what you call boy and girl donkeys) in this area have so far been in vain.

Ellen said: "This production of Bizet's Carmen is about bringing the heat, the passion and the sensuous intensity of Spain to life on stage.

"In some venues, we're using a white Andalucian stallion. But, really, what could be more Spanish than incorporating a donkey into the performance?"

She needs a donkey to appear in the market scene in Act One and to carry the smugglers' goods through the mountains in Act Three.

Sadie Williams is co-ordinating the donkey stars for Opera and Ballet International.

She said: "We've had a great response in many areas and often the donkeys are quite used to the spotlight, having appeared in nativities or Palm Sunday parades.

STARS: Donkey search for Carmen, and Dunstable's Christmas lights

"But for some reason, we're struggling to find a suitable donkey in Bedfordshire."

Carmen will be staged at the Grove Theatre on February 22.

If you think that your donkey has what it takes to appear in the show, contact Sadie on sadie@ellenkent.co.uk by December 20.

The donkey owner will need to be prepared to go onstage in costume to look after the four-legged thespian. A collection to raise money for donkey welfare will be made on the night.

Maybe Ellen and Sadie should be looking in Eaton "Bray"!

There's an extra sparkle in Dunstable town centre at the moment. For the Christmas street lights are adding a blaze of colour to the high street.

It's a bright way to remind us that it's time to empty the piggy-bank and start picking up pressies in our local shops as well as further afield.

Photographer Joanna Cross captured the scene in High Street North on camera for you.

And it certainly made me "focus" on Christmas! We're all scouring the town for gift ideas.

I've heard of some wacky presents in the past. What's the quirkiest pressie you've ever had – or given? Share the moment with me by dropping me a line at the email address at the foot of this column. Or check out our postal address on page 2.

You've heard of Movember.

But will you be taking part in Decembeard? Bowel Cancer UK is urging people in this area to grow a beard in December to raise sponsorship cash.

Just make sure you're clean-shaven on November 30, set up an online fundraising page, keep track of your beard growth, and start seeking sponsorship support.

Easy! If you can't grow a beard, you can download a cut-out beard for those with stubble trouble, from the charity's website. And there's lots of other info on there, including a special beard quiz that's perfect for a fundraising night.

You can find a Decembeard fundraising pack, and sign up to take part, on the website, too, at www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk/Decembeard. Or call the charity on 020 7386 4006. And don't give up if you're having bother becoming a beardie – keep your chin up...

> Seen or heard something quirky or good for a giggle? Call me on 01582 798506, email anne.odonoghue@jpress.co.uk or drop me a line, see page 2 for details

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Drivers shortage to be resolved

London Midland says the issue over a shortage of drivers will soon be rectified, amid another week of delays for passengers in Northampton.

The operator announced last month that services faced cancellation on a daily basis, due to not enough trained drivers being available.

But it has now announced it is fully subscribed for trainee drivers, and they will start to become operational from December onwards.

A company spokesman said: "We envisage this temporary issue will be resolved from December 9."

The announcement came during a week when London Midland passengers experienced more delays, not all connected to the shortage of drivers.

Yesterday morning, the fast line from Euston to Northampton was blocked due to a rail defect at Watford Junction, causing delays.

And on Tuesday, a suspected broken rail led to services from Birmingham to Northampton terminating at Rugby, while Network Rail investigated the fault.

The company has pledged to keep passengers updated with changes to its services.

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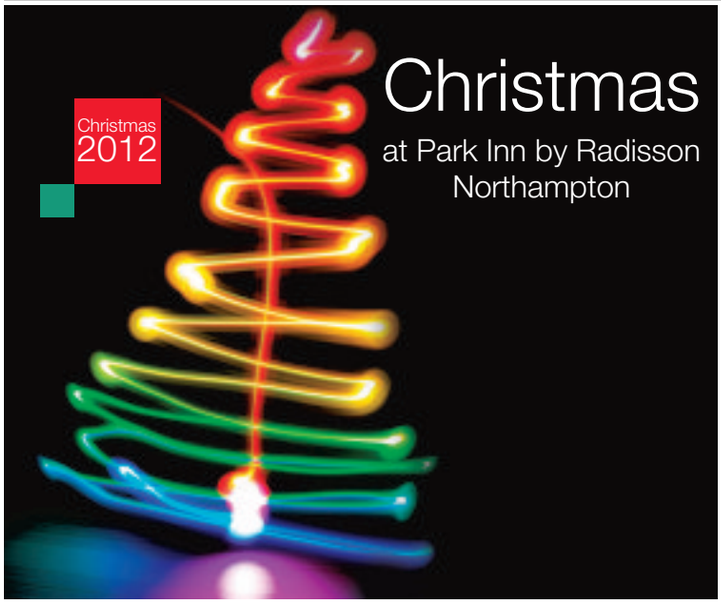

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Foster carer support praised

A report has praised the support foster carers in Northamptonshire receive – now a call is being made for more people to join them.

A recent Ofsted report on the county's fostering services found foster carers feel their views are valued by Northamptonshire County Council and foster carers and children feel supported.

Northamptonshire foster carers are now backing a campaign to encourage more local people to help the council to take care of vulnerable children in their area.

The campaign aims to increase the chances of a child in care staying their local area and to avoid having to use expensive agency placements that could see them living away.

Foster carers are paid a weekly allowance and receive a full training package.

There is also a specific foster carer group for men, The Northamptonshire Male Foster Carers Group, which is recognised by the Fostering Network.

For more information call 0300 126 1009 or visit www.fosterme.co.uk

● Colin Clement and wife Jackie have been fostering older children for 10 years.
Mr Clement said: "Being a foster carer does change you. "You gain as much from the experience as the children do. "It's a way of being part of your community and giving something back."

Help for women prisoners

A charity which offers kinship to women prisoners is highlighting its work as part of Prisons Week.

The C2C Charitable Trust's Rock Project has been running for three years, offering support and friendship to women in HMP Peterborough.

The charity, which is based in Duke Street, Northampton, helps prisoners in a number of ways, including one case where they took the prisoner's mum and baby in to visit her, and helped her find somewhere to live on her release.

In another case, they helped a prisoner source grants for setting up her own business on release.

Jane Thornton, from the charity, said: "We have been able to listen to the women and offer help while they have been in prison.

"If any of them have been coming back to Northampton we have then been able to give them continued support in the community as well as their families."

For details visit www.c2ccharitabletrust.com

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Trevor is rightly proud too of comments he receives back from satisfied customers, a selection of which he has put on his website **www.cloudy2clear.co.uk**. For example, he recently completed an installation at Mr Miners house in Northampton. Here's what he had to say. *'I have to say that I thought the service Cloudy2Clear offer compared to having completely new windows absolutely incredible value. The service was reliable, simple and without complication. The windows look absolutely brilliant and installation was incredibly quick. Thank you!'*

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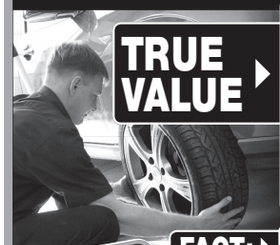

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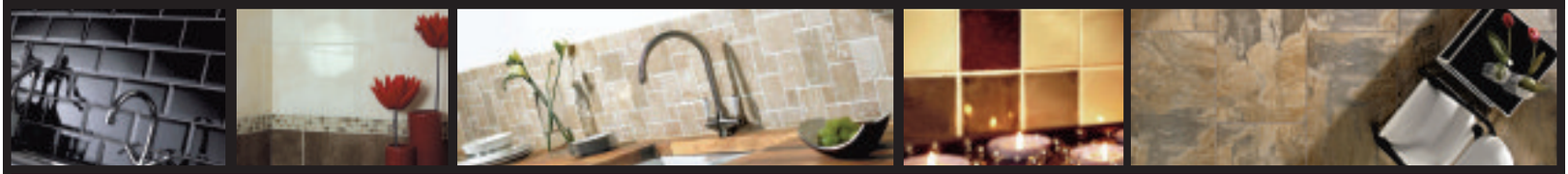

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New head's aspirations

The new headteacher at Weston Favell Academy in Northampton says she is aiming to lead the school to an "outstanding" Ofsted rating.

Rachel Steele, who has moved from her role as vice-principal at Brooke Weston Academy in Corby, has taken charge of the secondary school which is sponsored by the Greenwood Dale Foundation Trust (GDFT).

Weston Favell has been without a permanent principal since March when Geraint Parry, who led the school out of special measures after two terms, resigned due to a need to be closer to his family in Manchester.

Mrs Steele, who started on November 2, said she was planning to have a five minute meeting with every year 11 student to find out what their opinions of the school.

Mrs Steele said: "I realise the targets for the school were set before I started and the aim is for the school to continue its journey to becoming an outstanding school.

"It will be a gradual process and I need to understand the areas that we need to work on improving."

After becoming the fifth headteacher at the school in the past three years, Mrs Steele has reassured parents, pupils and staff that she is in the job for the "long haul."

She said: "When I first came here the thing the students all said to me was 'we want a headteacher to commit to the school'.

"That is what I want to communicate to people and I'm showing this by taking the time to get to know every single year 11 student."

Mrs Steele said she was hoping to see an improvement in 2013's GCSE and A-level results.

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Firm praises support from bank

A Northampton shell moulding company has made a £700,000 investment in a new machine thanks to the support of a local bank.

RSM Castings, of North Portway Close, on the Round Spinney industrial estate, bought a thermal reclamation and resin coating plant with funding from Yorkshire Bank in Gold Street.

The firm, which is one of Europe's leading shell moulding foundries, employs 100 people and produces more than two million castings a year for the automotive, hydraulic and engineering industries across the world.

Barrie Jones, chairman and joint managing director of RSM Castings, said: "The support from Yorkshire Bank has been crucial in buying the machine.

"We have been customers since 1999 and in these tough economic times, this kind of backing is more important than ever."

Brian Colquhoun, regional director at Yorkshire Bank in the East Midlands, said: "This new machine will prove beneficial in reducing its import costs as well as having the added bonus of being able to recycle the sand it uses in its wide variety of castings which are made to order."

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Life and Death in Pompeii and Herculaneum at the British Museum

Saturday departures, 20 April & 18 May 2013

Don't miss this major exhibition on the Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, opening in Spring 2013 at the British Museum. This exhibition will be the first ever held on these important cities at the British Museum, and the first such major exhibition in London for almost 40 years. AD 79. In just 24 hours, two cities in the Bay of Naples in southern Italy were buried by a catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

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- Free time in London
- Return coach travel from Northampton, Higham Ferrers, Kettering, Rushden & Wellingborough

1st major exhibition of its kind in London for almost 40 years.

For more information or to book, please call: **01604 92 10 72** quote NOR

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Share your dancing days memories

PEOPLE are invited to share memories of their dancing days for a special exhibition being held at Northampton Museum and Art Gallery.

The exhibition, which will be on display next year, will pay homage to the town's most popular dancing days in the 1930s.

The Northampton Salon de Danse was a popular haunt for dance enthusiasts in the town at that time and Hollywood actor Errol Flynn was a regular visitor at there.

Another dance hall, The Gayeway, opened in 1958 at The Exchange Cinema in the Market Square and in 1939 a ballroom dance native to the town called the Northampton Canter was first performed there. The dance was choreographed by Fred Langley to music by local composer Philip Thomas and writer Leslie Kibble, but the moves have long since been forgotten.

Those with any memories of the Canter or Northampton's dance culture can call Northampton 838111.

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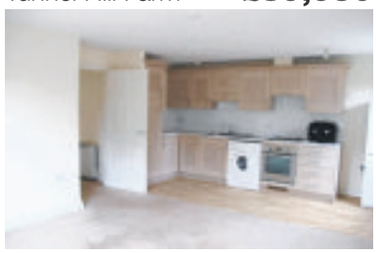

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Ex-rower returns to her sport in a bid to raise beat cancer

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A retired rowing champion from Northampton, who is suffering from cancer, has taken up her sport again to raise funds for research into the illness.

Anne Yates, from Kingsthorpe, who was diagnosed with breast cancer four months ago, has not raced since February 2008, when she won a bronze medal at the World Indoor Rowing Championships in Boston, USA.

The 56-year-old has now set herself the challenge of racing at four major indoor rowing events to raise funds for Cancer Research UK.

She wants to raise funds for research after taking part in a clinical trial, to test whether hormone therapy before, as well as after, surgery improves the outcome for post-menopausal women with breast cancer.

She said: "There's no history of cancer in my family so I was completely shocked when I was diagnosed.

"My consultant, having confirmed my cancer diagnosis, invited me to join the trial. He also explained to me, the treatment I was due to receive was simply not available even two years ago, thereby reinforcing the need for continued research into cancer.

"I thought 'wow, aren't I lucky'. Thank goodness for such wonderful scientists and doctors."

She added: "The researchers can't do their job without funding and rowing is what I do best.

"Today's research becomes tomorrow's treatment and, with that, new hope."

Paula Young, spokeswoman for the Cancer Research UK charity in Northampton, said: "Cancer Research UK relies entirely on voluntary donations to fund its life-saving research so we're enormously grateful to Anne for her hard work and wish her every bit of success with her fund-raising."

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motors today™ .co.uk

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Electrifyingly good!

The first of the cutely odd Smart two-seaters arrived in 1998 and now, all these years later, its maker has got things so close to right it almost hurts.

For, coming to a Smart dealer near you in the spring of 2013, will be the familiar shape, but with an unfamiliar power source. Yes, you can ditch the little petrol engine in the back in favour of an electric motor.

Suddenly, the Smart makes perfect sense as an urban runabout. It will travel for a claimed 90 miles before it needs plugging in to the mains. It puts out no pollutants and is nearly silent in operation.

And, glory of glory, because the electric motor does without a conventional gearbox the Smart, at last, banishes the pause-jerk changes that constant development has not eliminated.

But slipping in an electric motor has done more than make the Smart Fourtwo seem convincing on paper.

Big enough for two adults to share the cockpit, and with a sensibly sized boot to boot (sorry), this really is the way forward for townies who do nominal miles.

Electric motors develop maximum push from zero revs, so the Smart pulls away from the lights with surprising zeal.

Smart gives several time periods for charging the car, starting with 10 to 12 hours from a domestic socket to six hours from a specially-installed wallbox or a mere one hour from a fast charger.

You suspect most people will plug in when they get home at night and relish the pennies they're paying for tomorrow's journey back into town.

Talking money, Smart can't say yet how much the car will cost when sales start early next year.

But, refreshingly, the UK press people quickly produced the price in the car's native Germany.

And if there is a simple switch from euros to pounds, we're in for a pleasant surprise.

A few presses of the editorial calculator, and taking in the government grant for electric vehicles, the Smart on test could cost around £11,500, with the Cabrio at £12,700, or thereabouts.

You'll need to lease the battery at around £55 a month, but it adds up to a tempting proposition.

Tempting too from the driver's seat, from where the relatively high seating position and the car's tiny dimensions make this one easy machine to thread through the urban maze.

A comfortable one too, with only an occasional jerk over sleeping policemen, and the onboard convenience of air conditioning.

German car makers in particular are sometimes too keen to stretch the euro/pound conversion, but if Smart can resist the temptation, its new plugged in baby will become the best all-electric small car you can buy.

It makes rivals from Mitsubishi and Peugeot look ludicrously overpriced, at more than £20,000 a pop.

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Daewoo

DAEWOO TACUMA CDX

53, 2.0, mpv, 65,359 miles, blue, petrol, 2003, mot till Oct 2013,Sony cd,. £1,200 ono **Tel: 07857140009**

2003 £1,200 ono

Fiat

FIAT PUNTO ACTIVE SPORT

53, 1.2, 3 door hatchback, 78,000 miles, blue, petrol, 2003, Lovely looking motor, ideal first car. 5 months Tax and MOT. Part Service History.. £1,995 ono **Tel: 07854 158686**

2003 £1,995 ono

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Ford

FORD SPORTKA SE

53, 1.6, 3 door hatchback, 50000 miles, blue, petrol, 2003, Good condition, electric front windows, ABS, PAS, leather seats, electric mirrors, air con, alloy wheels, CD player, 2 owners from new, service history, MOT until may, tax until Jan. £1,695 ono **Tel: 07791 883524**

2003 £1,695 ono

FORD FIESTA FLAME 04, 1.4, 89000 miles, silver, petrol, 2004, MOT Taxed Alloys CD EW SH VGC. £2,150 **Tel:** 01604 454626

2004 £2,150

FORD FIESTA FINESSE

1300cc, Petrol, 2004, 35000 miles on clock. £1800 ono
Tel:01858 434757

2004 £1800 ono

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CAR OF THE WEEK

52 **FORD FIESTA 1.2 GHIA 5dr,** met blue, low mileage, 67000, FSH very clean top of the range, power steering, electric windows, central locking **£2,795**

07 **MERCEDES BENZ S320 CDI AUTOMATIC 4 DOOR LIMOUSINE,** 1 owner, 84,000 miles from new, full mercedes benz service history, this car has every conceivable extra, including television, sat nav, alloy wheels, electric windows, cruise control, traction control, climate control & air conditioning, stunning luxury motoring for just..... **£18,995**

04 **MERCEDES BENZ 350 SL SPORTS CONVERTIBLE 2 DOORS,** metallic black paintwork, full cream leather interior, sat nav, 20' alloy wheels, heated electric seats, great spec and must be seen **£12,495**

06 **BMW X3 2.0 TURBO DIESEL 5 DOOR HATCHBACK,** average mileage, full BMW specialist service history, power steering, electric windows, cd player, air conditioning, alloy wheels **£7,995**

08 **FORD FOCUS C-MAX 1.8 STYLE 5 DOOR MPV,** only 31,000 miles, full service history, air conditioning, metallic silver paintwork, power steering, electric windows, remote central locking, electric mirrors, cd player, ... **£5,295**

09 **NISSAN MICRA 160 SR 3 DOOR SPORTS HATCH,** full service history, metallic paintwork, spoilers, alloy wheels, climate control, sports seats, rear parking sensors, electric windows, remote central locking, cd player, great spec, a rare car for just **£4,795**

07 **RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 EXTREME 5 DOOR MPV,** only 37,000 miles, full renault service history, metallic silver paintwork, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, alloy wheels, cd player **£4,495**

06 **NISSAN MICRA 1.4 SE AUTO 5 DOOR,** only 33,000 miles yes only 33,000 miles from new, full Nissan service history, electric windows, remote central locking, air conditioning, credit to its previous keeper..... **£4,495**

04 **VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 AUTOMATIC DESIGN MPV,** metallic satin red paintwork, 68,000 miles, full vauxhall service history including cambelt changed, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, cd player.....**£2,995**

03 **NISSAN MICRA 1.4 SVE 3 DOOR HATCHBACK,** finished in metallic gold paintwork, 61,000 miles with full service history, climate control, rear parking sensors, cd player, power steering, remote central locking, electric windows, this is a top of the range micra for just..... **£2,795**

07 **PEUGEOT 1007 DOLCE LIMITED EDITION 3 DOOR,** 52,000 miles with full service history, metallic orange paintwork, air conditioning, power steering, electric windows, remote central locking, a very easily accessible vehicle. **£2,495**

05 **BMW 316 SE 4 DOOR SALOON,** only 79,000 miles, full service history, metallic silver paintwork, power steering, electric windows, remote central locking, cruise control, climate control, rear parking sensors, cd player, alloy wheels **£2,495**

03 **RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION AUTOMATIC,** 5 door, only 59,000 miles, full service history, in silver, one previous owner from new, cd player **£2,495**

02 **VOLKSWAGEN LUPO 1.4 S 3 DOOR HATCHBACK,** 1 previous owner, 67,000 miles from new, alloy wheels, cd player, full service history, power steering, electric windows **£2,495**

53 **SKODA FABIA 1.2 CLASSIC 5 DOOR HATCHBACK,** only 53,000 miles, full service history, colour coded, ABS brakes, air conditioning, power steering, front fog lights, insurance group 1 ..... **£2,295**

05 **FORD KA 1.3 COLLECTION 3 DOOR HATCHBACK,** finsihed in metallic silver, 52,000 miles with service history, cd player, central locking, power steering, 1 previous owner, ideal first car **£2,295**

02 **SKODA FABIA 1.4 AUTOMATIC ELEGANCE ESTATE** below ave miles, full skoda service history, all service and repair invoices present, metaculosly maintained, alloy wheels, air conditioning, electric windows..... **£1,995**

03 **VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 CLUB 5 DOOR MPV,** average mileage, service history, metallic paintwork, cd player, air conditioning, electric windows, electric mirrors, great family car **£1,995**

X **FORD GALAXY 5 DOOR 7 SEATER MPV 1.9 TURBO DIESEL,** ave mileage, fully documented service history, recent cambelt change, long mot & road tax, drives superb..... **£1,995**

04 **SUZUKI ALTO 1.1 GL 5 DOOR HATCHBACK,** 48,000 miles, full service history, met blue, only £30 a year road tax, electric windows, power steering, cd player **£1,795**

02 **VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CLUB 5 DOOR HATCHBACK,** 74,000 miles, 1 owner, fully documented service history, alloy wheels, power steering, electric wintows, air conditioning **£1,795**

03 **PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX AUTOMATIC 3 DOOR HATCHBACK,** only 65,000 miles, metallic silver, power steering, alloy wheels, remote central locking, new mot **£1,695**

SPECIAL INTEREST

74 **MGB 1.8 SOFT TOP CHROME BUMPER MODEL,** fully restored with photographic evidence of all the work that has been carried out..... **£5,495**

63 **MORRIS 1100 4 DOOR SALOON,** only 29,000 miles YES ONLY 29,000 MILES, finished in connaught green, full service history from new, long mot & tax..... **£3,495**

PART EXCHANGE

02 **RENAULT SCENIC 1.9 DCI RX 4X4** **£995**

VANS

05 **VAUXHALL COMBI VAN 1.7 CDTI,** low mileage, side loading door, fullu ply lined, power steering... **£2,795 NO VAT**

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Ford

FORD FOCUS 1.8 zeztec

estate, petrol, gold, 2000, 106000 miles, PAS, 12 months MOT, Just serviced, Part service history, Reluctant sale (pic for ref only). £695 ono
Tel:07973 482291 or 01604 406679

2000 £695 ono

FORD FOCUS

1.6 5 door hatchback, petrol, blue, 2003, 42000 miles, 10 moths MOT,&Tax £1100 ono
Tel:01604 715101

2003 £1100 ono

FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZETEC 2.0, mpv, 98500 miles, green, diesel, 2005, 6 speed gear box.. £2,850 Tel: 07775733323

2005 £2,850

FORD KA KA 56, 1.3, 3 door hatchback, 69,000 miles, blue, petrol, 2006, mot april 2013 taxed end may 2013,ideal first car. £1,595 Tel: 07854732429

2006 £1,595

FORD KA KA 51, 1.3, 3 door hatchback, 70354 miles, pink, petrol, 2002, Lovely first car, paint work not perfect. £450 ono Tel: 07854631545

2002 £450 ono

FORD MONDEO ZETEC

1.8 5 door hatchback, petrol, Silver, 99000 miles, Tax & MOT. Full Service History. Good condition
Tel:01933 667312 or 07760294034

2000 £595

Ford Transit 115 T350L

2008, 57 reg, RWD dropside lorry, 6 speed diesel. 2 owners from new. VGC. 11 months MoT, 4 months tax. £6750 ono
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Ford Fiesta 1.25 Style, 5 door, 2007 57 reg, only 22,000 miles, full service history, pas, abs, e/w, r/c/l, metallic silver, superb condition, very low miles only £4795
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2007 £4795

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Ford Fiesta 1.6 Ghia Automatic, 5 door, 2005 05 reg, only 26,000 miles, full service history, 2 owners, air con alloys, cd, pas, abs, metallic blue with full black leather interior,only £3995
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Ford Transit 115 T350L

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2008 £6750 ono

FORD MONDEO TDCi 2.0

5 door hatchback, diesel, silver, 2004, MOT, Tax, tow bar, reversing sensors, good condition. £2200 ono
Tel:07754 051763

2004 £2,200 ono

Honda

HONDA CIVIC TYPE-R

55, 2.0, 3 door hatchback, 66000 miles, black, petrol, 2005, Limited Edition Type R 66,000 miles, Metallic Black. A/C Recaro Seats, Type R Mats; black privacy glass, MOMO steering wheel, unmarked alloys, radio/CD,central locking, electric windows. FHSH MOT to 09/13. £5,999 ono **Tel: 07968122017**

2005 £5,999 ono

Jaguar

JAGUAR X-TYPE SOVEREIGN AUTO

2.2, 42,000 miles, diesel, 2008, FJSH (just serviced), SATNAV, sun roof, ivory leather, climate, front elec heated seats, 6 speed switchable auto, F&R PDC, 6xCD, xenons + powerwash, heated screen, bluetooth, computer, cruise, powerfold mirrors, premium Alpine hi-fi.. £10,850 **Tel: 07867834434**

2008 £10,850

Jaguar XJS

V12, Petrol, Metallic Red, 1990, 135000 miles, Mot May 2013, 6 Months tax. Super bodywork. Drives super. Expensive Music. Refurbished alloys. Great tyres. Classic insurance £165, Valuation £2600.
Tel:07583938276
northampton

1990 £1500 ono

Mercedes

MERCEDES 190E AUTO J, 2.0, 4 door saloon, 172000 miles, green, petrol, 1992, Taxed Apr 13 MOT May. £600 ono Tel: 07973845078

1992 £600 ono

Mini

MINI MINI

1.6 3 door hatchback, petrol, Metallic blue, 2005, 97000 miles, 4 seats, A/B, A/C, CD, C/L, E/M, E/W, F/S/H, MOT July 13, P/A/S, Tax, excellent condition £3150 ono
Tel:01536 710401

2005 £3150 ono

Mini

MINI COOPER S

07, 1.6, 53000 miles, grey, 2007, Heated leather seats, Panoramic sun roof, Sat Nav, Parking sensors, i-pod treatment, Full A/C, keyless entry, elec folding mirrors, MP3 CD & Digital radio etc.. £7,699 ono
Tel: 07900050305

2007 £7,699 ono

Nissan

Nissan Micra 1.2

3 door, Petrol, Dark blue, 2003, CD player, 6 months Tax, good condition, 12 months MOT, low mileage, ideal for learner or first time driver, very economical. £1700
Tel:01858 680333

2003 £1700

Nissan

NISSAN X-TRAIL SVE DCI

., diesel, silver, 2004, 76820 miles, F/S/R, All wheel drive, black leather trim, front seats heated and electrically adjusted, alloy wheels, satnav, aircon. One previous owner, full service record. Tax and MOT to end Jan 2013. Excellent Condition. £4950 ono **Tel:01604 858886**

2004 £4950 ono

NISSAN MICRA S 1.0, blue, petrol, 2000, gd condition, 1 lady owner last 8 years. £790 ono Tel: 07542557203 weekdays before 7pm

2000 £790 ono

VAUXHALL CORSA

1.4 Automatic, 1998, 5 door hatchback, red, 73000 miles, A/B, alloys, F/S/H, P/A/S, sunroof, taxed, recent service, long MoT. Immaculate condition, drives well. £750 ono
Tel:07900 306243

1998 £750 ono

Perodua

PERODUA KELISA EZ AUTO 1.0, 5 dr hatch, under 12,000 miles, gold, petrol, 2008, fsh,Tax & MoT Apr 13. £3,100 ono Tel: 01858565825

2008 £3,100 ono

Peugeot

HAMILTONS

Peugeot 307, 1.4S, 5 door, 2007 07 reg, only 44,000 miles, full Peugeot service history, 2 owners, air con, alloys, cd, pas, abs, e/w, r/c/l, e/m, front fogs, metallic grey, excellent condition only £4495
Tel: 01604 626711 (T)

2007 £4495

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PART EXCHANGE BARGAIN TO CLEAR 1999 V REG NISSAN ALMERA 1.4 ACTION 5 DOORS HATCHBACK, metallic Blue, 96,000 miles, power steering, airbag, electric windows, central locking. mot sep 2013 taxed end april 2013, runs and drives really well.....**ONLY £495**

FORD MONDEO 2.0 GHIA ESTATE. 5 DOOR. 2002 52 REG. full service history. 1 previous owner from new. air conditioning / climate control. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. auto wipers. power steering. abs brakes. front and rear electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. electric mirrors. heated front screen. front fog lights. drivers seat height adjustment. front centre armrest. multiple airbags, roof rails. metallic blue. very good condition. mot till july 2013. taxed till end of january 2013. useful, roomy estate.....**ONLY £1,495**

RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC 1.9 DCI DYNAMIQUE. 5 DOOR DIESEL MPV. 2004 04 REG. full service history including cambelt changed with receipt. 2 previous owners from new. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. front and rear electric windows. electric heated mirrors. remote central locking / alarm. isofix child seat system. front fog lights. drivers seat height adjustment. front centre armrest. 6 speed gearbox. metallic red. mot till november 2013. taxed till end of december 2012. very good condition. great mpg. useful, roomy mpv. very economical.....**ONLY £1,995**

SEAT IBIZA 1.4 16V SPORT. 2005 05 REG. 3 DOOR HATCHBACK. only 63,000 miles. full service history. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player with i-pod connector. electric windows. central locking. power steering. abs brakes. front fog lights. drivers seat height adjustment. front and rear mudflaps. multiple airbags. metallic silver. great looking car. low cost tax and insurance. mot'd and taxed end of april 2013.....**ONLY £2,995**

FORD FIESTA 1.1 POPULAR PLUS. 1987 D REG. 1 private owner from new. only 9,000 genuine miles. yes 9,000 miles from new. old mot's and tax discs. original tyres. spare never been used. burgandy red. outstanding condition. must see. runs and drives like new. not many around like this. no rust. never been welded.....**ONLY £2,995**

CITROEN XSARA PICASSO 1.6 16V DESIRE. 5 DOOR MPV. 2006 06 REG. only 56,000 miles. full service history. 2 previous owners from new. air conditioning. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. electric heated mirrors. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. multiple airbags. drivers seat height adjustment. metallic silver. very good condition. well maintained. smart, useful, roomy mpv. mot till april 2013. taxed till end of december 2012. great value for money. very low mileage.....**ONLY £3,295**

FORD FIESTA 1.25 FINESSE. 3 DOOR HATCHBACK. 2004 04 REG. only 27,000 miles. full service history with receipts and old mot's. 1 previous owner from new. power steering. abs brakes. radio / cd player. central locking with 2 keys. ford immobiliser. airbags. taxed and mot'd till april 2013. metallic aqua frost. excellent condition inside and out. well looked after. very well maintained. must see.....**ONLY £3,295**

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 ACTIVE. 5 DOOR 7 SEATER, MPV PEOPLE CARRIER. 2006 06 REG. 1 previous owner from new. service history. only 92,000 miles. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. electric mirrors. roof rails. privacy glass. drivers seat height adjustment. multiple airbags. metallic grey. very good condition. useful, roomy mpv. mot till july 2013. taxed till end of december 2012. great value.....**ONLY £3,795**

CITROEN C3 1.6i 16V SX AUTOMATIC. 2008 57 REG. 5 DOOR HATCHBACK. only 44,000 full service history (last serviced in september 2012). 1 previous owner from new. air conditioning / climate control. alloy wheels. radio / cd player with mp3 player. power steering. abs brakes. auto lights. auto wipers. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. electric heated mirrors. drivers seat height adjustment. isofix child seat system. multiple airbags. front armrest. front fog lights. metallic blue. superb condition. mot till may 2013. taxed till end of january 2013. drives superb.....**ONLY £3,795**

PEUGEOT 107 1.0 URBAN. 3 DOOR HATCHBACK. 2007 56 REG. only 50,000 miles. full up to date service history. 1 previous owner from new. radio / cd player with i-pod connector. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. multiple airbags. stunning metallic blue. mot till april 2013. taxed till end of april 2013. excellent condition. only £20 per year road tax. only group 1 insurance. very low running costs. great value.....**ONLY £3,795**

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 16V LIFE. 5 DOOR HATCHBACK. 2008 08 REG. full service history. only 23,000 miles. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. electric mirrors. multiple airbags. drivers seat height adjustment. metallic blue. very good condition. mot till march 2013. great value.....**ONLY £3,995**

FORD FIESTA 1.6 GHIA AUTOMATIC, 5 DOOR HATCHBACK. 2005 05 REG. only 26,000 miles. full service history (last service october 2012). 2 previous owners from new. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player with steering wheel controls. heated front screen. electric heated mirrors. remote central locking / alarm. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. airbags. drivers seat height adjustment. front fog lights. metallic tonic blue with full black leather interior. mot till october 2013. taxed till end of april 2013. superb condition. very low mileage. great value. very smart top of the range auto.....**ONLY £4,295**

VOLKSWAGEN FOX 1.4 URBAN. 3 DOOR HATCHBACK. 2008 57 REG. 1 previous owner from new. only 45,000 miles. full service history. radio / cd player, power steering, abs brakes, electric windows, remote central locking / alarm. drivers seat height adjustment. multiple airbags. metallic silver. mot till november 2013. superb condition. very low miles. well maintained. only group 2 insurance. great value.....**ONLY £4,295**

VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE 1.4. 3 DOOR HATCHBACK. 2004 53 REG. FACE LIFT MODEL.. 1 previous owner from new. only 27,000 miles. full service history including cambelt changed. alloy wheels, multi cd and tape player. esp / traction control. electric heated mirrors. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. multiple airbags. drivers seat height adjustment. metallic silver. 4 new tyres. taxed and mot'd. ready to drive away. superb condition. guaranteed not many around with this mileage. great value.....**ONLY £4,495**

RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.9 DCI DYNAMIQUE. 5 DOOR 7 SEATER DIESEL. 2007 57 REG. full renault service history including cambelt changed at 75k with bill to prove. 1 owner from new. only 93,000 miles. air conditioning. alloy wheels. cruise control. multi function steering wheel. radio / cd player. isofix child seat system. keyless start and go. auto lights. auto wipers. multiple airbags. drivers seat height adjustment. front centre armrest. panoramic sunroof. remote central locking / alarm. front and rear electric windows. electric heated mirrors. 6 speed gearbox. front fog lights, power steering. abs brakes. front centre armrest. fitted sunblinds. metallic grey. mot till november 2013. taxed till end of february 2013. high spec mpv diesel. smart, useful car. excellent condition. very well looked after.....**ONLY £4,495**

RENAULT MEGANE 1.9 DCI DYNAMIQUE. 5 DOOR HATCHBACK DIESEL. 2007 56 REG. only 47,000 miles. full service history. 2 previous owners from new. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. isofix child seat system. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. 6 speed gearbox, electric mirrors. multiple airbags. drivers seat height adjustment. metallic champagne. mot till december 2013. very good condition. low mileage diesel. very economical. low cost tax and insurance.....**ONLY £4,495**

SEAT ALHAMBERA 1.9 TDI SX 5 DOOR 7 SEATER MPV. 2004 04 REG. full service history. 1 previous owner from new. air conditioning / climate control. cruise control. radio / cd player. 2 built in child seats and built in booster seat. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. electric folding mirrors. remote central locking / alarm. roof rails. privacy glass. 6 speed gearbox. metallic silver. superb condition. smart, useful, roomy mpv.....**ONLY £4,495**

HONDA JAZZ 1.4i DSI SE CVT-7. 5 DOOR AUTOMATIC. 2005 55 REG. only 53,000 miles. full service history. 1 owner from new. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. power steering. abs brakes. electric heated folding mirrors. front and rear electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. multiple airbags. drivers seat height adjustment. metallic silver. mot till september 2013. excellent condition. very low mileage auto. very well looked after.....**ONLY £4,795**

FORD FIESTA 1.25 STYLE. 5 DOOR HATCHBACK. 2007 57 REG only 22,000 miles. full service history. 2 previous owners from new. power steering. abs brakes. electric windows. remote central locking / alarm. ford immobiliser. drivers seat height adjustment. multiple airbags. metallic silver. superb condition. mot till september 2013. very low miles. very hard to find in 5 door with such very low miles. great value.....**ONLY £4,795**

VAUXHALL TIGRA 1.4 16V CC EXCLUSIV COUPE CABRIOLET. 2 DOOR CONVERTIBLE. 2007 57 REG. only 47,000 miles. full service history. 2 previous owners from new. air conditioning. alloy wheels. radio / cd player. bright red with full black leather interior. heated seats. electric roof. electric windows. electric heated mirrors. remote central locking / alarm. front fog lights. drivers seat height adjustment. multiple airbags. power steering. abs brakes. multi function steering wheel. superb condition. very low miles. mot till september 2013. taxed.....**ONLY £4,995**

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05/55 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 TDI 90 SE
5DR, RED £3995
08/08 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 6V SE
5DR, GREY SALE £4995
09/09 PEUGEOT 407 1.0 HDI
140 SPORT 5DR, BLACK £5495

RENAULT

03 RENAULT CLIO
BLACK, LOW INSURANCE, IDEAL 1ST CAR £2495

SUZUKI

01 SUZUKI VITARA 1.6
BLUE £1795

TOYOTA

10/10 TOYOTA AYGO
5DR, BLUE 47,000 MILES £5495
11/60 TOYOTA YARIS
5DR, RED £9000
03/03 TOYOTA YARIS
3DR 1.0 SILVER 1 OWNER £2495

VAUXHALL

07/07 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 16V ACTIVE
5DR BLACK £4495
07/07 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 VVT SRI
5DR, SILVER SALE £3895
00/W VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CLUB
5DR, AUTO ESTATE RED SALE £995
06/06 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 16V
LIFE BLUE £3495
02/52 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB 1.2
SILVER, 61,000 MILES IDEAL FIRST CAR SALE £2495
09/09 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2LTR CDTI
76,000 MILES, FSH, 1 OWNER SALE £7695
08/08 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 CDTI
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BLUE,57,000 MILES £4495
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5 DR SILVER £2995

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04 VW BEETLE 1.2E CONVERTIBLE 1.4
44,000 MILES FROM NEW, ELECTRIC BLUE, SALE £5495
08/08 VW PASSAT 1.9 BLUEMOTION TDI DPF
BLUE £6995
02/02 VW PASSAT 2.0 SE 4DE,
BLUE SALE £1995
02/02 VW POLO 1.2 E
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EXAMPLE 2

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EXAMPLE 3

Superior Showcase includes 3 pictures and costs just £61.50 FOR 3 WEEKS in all 5 newspapers and their websites

Other styles not illustrated are:

- Single Showcase with no picture £26
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- Triple Showcase with 1 picture £36
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Family Announcements

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Births

Wickham/Jones
Jade & Gary
Love and congratulations to you both on the birth of our 1st Grandchild & Niece
Evie Alexandra
18th November 2012
Weight 8lb 7 oz
Love from both Families
x x x x

65th Birthday

LES" RINGO" CARTER
Happy 65th Birthday To The Best Dad & Pap in the world love from Ian Caroline Ryan & Tom XXX

Obituaries

HARRIS
Robert 'Bob'
Passed away peacefully in hospital on the evening of 21st November 2012 aged 73 years following a long illness.
A dearly loved and treasured Husband of Rita, caring and loving Father to Lisa and a very dear and special Pap to Bethany and Ruby and treasured Father-in-law to Ian.

A golden heart stopped beating
hard working hands at rest
God broke our hearts to prove to us
he only takes the best.

Good night, God bless
x x
Funeral to held on 6th December 2012 at The Counties Crematorium, Milton at 11.45am
All Friends and colleagues welcome
Flowers may be sent to
SE Wilkinson & Son
30 Grove Road Northampton
NN1 3LQ

HARRIS
Robert 'Bob'
Passed away
21st November 2012

We will miss you and remember all the happy times

Brother to
Sheila, Pam, John, Graham and David
Brother-in-law to
Sam, Judy and Sandy
Respected and loved
Uncle to his
Nieces and Nephews

PETERS
Grant

Passed away suddenly in his 18th year.
Your memory is precious, lovingly kept in our hearts forever.
Rest in Peace,
God Bless.
Nan, Grandad,
Aunty Vivien,
William, Aunty Janet,
Uncle Jerry,
Aunty Diane, Robin,
Cheryl, Dave
and family,
Wayne, Ann-Marie
and
family.

Obituaries

HOWE
Gwendoline Betty

19.11.2012.
Wife to the late Clifford.
Passed away suddenly after a brief illness at Northampton General Hospital.

Loving Sister of Margaret. Sister-in-law of the late Alfred. Very dear Aunt of Sandra, Philip, Roger and Charlotte.
Very good Friend of Sheila and Robert.

You will always be in our hearts and never be forgotten. Now peacefully sleeping.

The Funeral Service will be held on Monday 3rd December, 2.00pm at The Chapel of The Counties Crematorium, Milton. Flowers if desired may be sent please to
The Funeral Home of Kevin Matthews,
1-5 Balmoral Road,
Kingsthorpe,
Northampton,
NN2 6LA.
Tel: 01604 792284.
www.kmfunerals.co.uk

QUINN
Francis Peter
Best Friend & a true gentleman
Great story teller
Drinking partner & singer!
Will be so sadly missed but remembered with love by Danny, Anita & Family.
Sleep peacefully
Frank
xxx

Acknowledgements

HARRIS
Robert "Bob"

School pal and respected Brother-in-law.

Courageous till the end.

God Bless.

Ken Brown
and Family.

Acknowledgements

JONES
Margaret Edith

Ian, Jackie, Sam and Louise would like to thank everyone for their kind words, cards and messages on their recent sad loss, also to the many who attended Mum's Funeral with apologies for not being able to speak to you all.

Thanks also to Brampton View Care Home for making Mum's last weeks so comfortable, Reverend Andy Byfield along with the Church Family and Ann Bonham & Son for their Funeral Care and attention.

In Memoriam

BEJERS Phyllis
23.12.2000
BEJERS Louise
01.12.2009

My heart still aches
in sadness
And secret tears
still flow
What it meant to
lose you
No one will
ever know.

Love Jim & Family
x x

In Memoriam

BURKE
Mary Anne
In loving memory of my dear Wife, devoted Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother who passed to her eternal rest on 28th November 1998.
Thank you Mary for your life and love, and the many sacrifices you made on my behalf.
Rest In Peace Darling.
Your loving Husband Frank, your loving Daughters Lorraine and Marilyn and all your Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.

In Memoriam

HEELER
Harold

21-11-2010

Two years have passed since you left us, but our memories will keep you in our hearts and minds forever.

Miss you always.
June, Martin, Deb, Kirsty & Charlotte
x x

In Memoriam

TOBIN
Patrick

3-12-2010
Just as you were
You will always be
Some one special
In our memory

RIP
Love Eileen
& Family

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MR MEN 12 books, , very good condition, £6.1933624229

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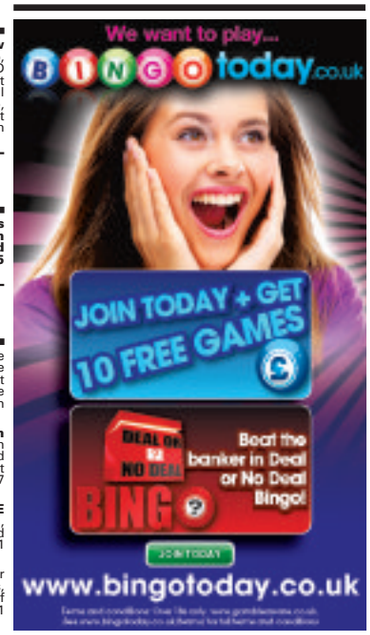

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Mercury Sport

EQUALISER – Cobblers celebrate Clive Platt's goal at Oxford last Saturday

PICTURE: KIRSTY EDMONDS

Aidy says Town must sharpen up in attack

AIDY BOOTHROYD says the Cobblers have to be more incisive in attack if they are to be involved in the npower League Two promotion race.

The Town manager has some extra time with his players between matches this week, with 11 days passing from the defeat at Oxford United, and the team's next assignment.

That comes in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy third round, with Leyton Orient the visitors to Sixfields on Wednesday December 5 (7.45pm kick-off).

Boothroyd will not receive any players back from injury during that time, with John Johnson, Luke Guttridge and David Artell scheduled to be out until January and Alex Nicholls likely to miss up to a year with a broken leg.

But the manager will get plenty of time on the training ground to correct what he felt was a lack of penetration in the weekend loss at the Kassam Stadium. "People have got a bit of a thing about possession and possession is great but it's not about having the ball, it's about what you do with it in both boxes," he said.

"We didn't get enough bodies in the box on Saturday but we weren't really incisive enough.

"We had some really good build-up play and we got a good final ball in on occasions but the goalkeeper was taking the ball too easily.

"In those situations we need to head him into the net - the ball and the goalkeeper - our striker needs to do that.

"There were lots of positives to take from the game and we need to take those on board going forward."

Meanwhile, Chris Hackett believes the Cobblers' defeat at Oxford United is a reminder they still need to make improvements despite their excellent form of the past month.

Town went to the Kassam Stadium on the back of three league wins in a row and just three points off the automatic promotion places in npower League Two.

Although they remain in touch with the promotion picture - they are outside the top seven by two points - the defeat does represent a setback.

Hackett feels the game illustrates how difficult it will be to go up this term, and the work that still needs to be done to achieve such a target.

"I don't think they dominated us," said the attacking midfielder, who maintained his fine recent form with another man-of-the-match performance. "They had some decent chances but so did we. We're disappointed because we didn't have one of our best games.

"We did well in patches but we know we've got to up our game even more.

"Teams are wary of us, they're aware that we are a good team but we can't just believe that and believe that we're going to turn up and win matches.

"We've got to step up and work even harder now. Teams are going to up their game when they play us and we've got to realise that."

Although Oxford were probably worthy winners - they scored twice and hit the woodwork twice - their first goal was highly contentious, with James Constable certainly in an offside position when he scored.

There were similar complaints about Jon-Paul Pittman's winner but Hackett shrugged those debates off and believes the Cobblers should have had enough to win the game despite a few dubious decisions going against them.

"There were a few people suggesting the first one was offside but we can't be talking about decisions in the game," he said. "I think we did enough to get something from it and we can't moan about things like that.

"It's a difficult place to come to but we still felt we were fully capable of taking something from the match."

Mujati is 'happy' at Saints

BRIAN MUJATI says he is 'very happy' at Saints, despite reports he is set to leave the club.

Mujati - along with team-mate Soane Tonga'uiha - has been linked with a move to French Top 14 side Racing Metro, having reportedly told Northampton boss Jim Mallinder that he had decided not to take up the option of a third year on his contract.

But the South African tighthead, speaking after Saturday's win against London Welsh, stated his desire to remain a Saints player.

And he is looking forward to reaching the milestone of 100 Saints appearances, as he currently sits just three short of the ton.

"I'm very happy," he said when questioned about his future.

"I've played 97 games now and it's my fourth year. I'm really enjoying it here, I've had a good time here and I hope it continues.

And the former Lions and Stormers player, who joined Saints in 2009, added: "When I first got here I never thought I'd play for that long in such a big club.

"It means a lot that I've managed to get that many games for the club."

Trio back for Sale

SAINTS are set to welcome back a trio of international stars ahead of their game at Sale on Friday.

Forwards coach Dorian West believes key men Ben Foden, Dylan Hartley and George Pisi will be available for the trip to the Salford City Stadium.

Pisi returns from international duty with Samoa, the highlight of which saw him score an acrobatic try to down Wales at the Millennium Stadium.

Saints captain Hartley is on the road to recovery from a knee injury picked up in the game against Saracens last month, while Foden is back in full training following an ankle ligament injury.

The England full-back last week targeted the game against the Premiership's bottom side for his return and West is confident Foden won't be the only man back in the fray.

"We are pretty hopeful that Dylan, Ben Foden and George Pisi will be available this week," said West. "We need to be at our best to beat Sale."

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